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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

1942

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Urban District Council

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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT OF FEATHERSTONE

for the

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1942

To the Chairman and Members of the Council :

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of placing before you my Twenty-third Annual Report on the Health of your District for the year ended 31st December 1942, along with the Report of your Sanitary Inspector (Mr. Hilsley).

Owing to the prevailing conditions, both Reports are abbreviated, and only salient facts referred to.

POPULATION. The population for the year 1942 as given to me by the Registrar General is 12350, being a decrease of 130 on the previous year.

The size of the Sanitary Area is 4425 acres and contains 3493 houses, giving a census of 3.5 per house.

During the year no new houses have been erected.

RATEABLE VALUE—

April 1942, £51071

1d Rate (gross) equals £212/15/11
1d Rate (net) equals £193/13/11

General Rate laid April 1942 .....£46487/11/5

WATER USED—

Half-year to March 1942.....36,794,000 gallons costing £2536.12.8
Half-year to Sept. 1942.....38,965,000 gallons costing £3080. 8. 7

Average cost per 1000 gallons—16.90 pence plus 5%

RAINFALL DURING 1942—

January	1.46 inches
February	0.53 inches
March	1.36 inches
April	0.98 inches
May	1.05 inches
June	0.76 inches
July	1.14 inches
August	2.49 inches
September	1.35 inches
October	1.55 inches
November	1.15 inches
December	1.04 inches
	14.86 inches

The wettest month was August with 2.49 inches, and the driest month was February with 0.53 inches. There were 261 days during the year when no rain fell.

OUT RELIEF (PUBLIC ASSISTANCE). The total cost of Relief from 1st April 1942 to 31st March 1943 was £4189/14/3 (37 men, 61 women, 48 children—total 146 persons).

UNEMPLOYMENT. There were 49 persons unemployed at the end of December 1942 (41 men, 1 boy and 7 girls).

BIRTH RATE. 261 Live births were registered during the year (147 males and 114 females), 6 males being illegitimate and 5 females. In addition to the Live births there were 13 Still births, all of which were legitimate.

This gives a Live Birth Rate of 21.1, and Still Births1.0.

The Birth Rate for England and Wales for 1942 was 15.8 and Still Births 0.54.

DEATH RATE. Total deaths during the year were 123 (71 males and 52 females) giving a Death Rate of 9.9.

The Death Rate for England and Wales was 11.6.

Of the total deaths, 8 died before they were a year old, and 79 were 60 and upwards.

INFANTILE MORTALITY. This is measured by the proportion of Deaths under 1 year to 1000 Registered Births. The total Deaths under 1 year were 8, and the total Live Births 261, giving an Infantile Mortality of 31. The Infantile Mortality figure for last year was 99. The improvement shown in our 1942 figure is very satisfactory.

The Infantile Mortality for England and Wales during 1942 was 49.

ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE. The deaths from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases (Smallpox, Scarlet Fever, Measles, Diphtheria, Enteric Fever, Whooping Cough and Diarrhoea) amount to 3, giving a Zymotic Death Rate of 0.20.

The following Table shows the number of Infectious Cases notified to me during the year 1942—

	Notified	Deaths
Typhoid ...	-	-
Scarlet Fever ...	23	-
Diphtheria ...	23	2
Erysipelas ...	7	-
Whooping Cough ...	19	1
Measles ...	116	-
Pneumonia ...	18	4
Puerperal Fever ...	1	-
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	2	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	-
	210	9

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1942

	Male	Female
Typhoid	-	-
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	1
Scarlet Fever	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	1
Diphtheria	1	1
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	4	2
Tuberculosis (Other Forms)	-	-
Syphilis	1	
Influenza	1	-
Measles	-	-
Acute Arterio Myelitis	-	-
Cancer of Mouth, Gullet and Uterus ...	2	1
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	4	-
Cancer of Breast	-	3
Cancer (all other sites)	2	3
Diabetes	-	-
Apoplexy (Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions) ...	9	6
Heart Diseases	20	8
Other Circulatory Diseases	-	-
Bronchitis	6	3
Pneumonia	2	2
Other Respiratory Diseases	-	2
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1	-
Appendicitis	-	1
Other Digestive Diseases	2	2
Nephritis	4	2
Puerperal Sepsis	-	-
Other Maternal Causes	-	-
Premature Birth	1	-
Congenital Malformality, Birth Injuries etc. ...	2	1
Suicide	1	-
Road Traffic Accidents	-	2
Other Violent Causes	6	1
All Other Causes	-	9
	71	52

IMMUNISING. Every effort has been made by my Council to increase the number of children immunised against Diphtheria during 1942. All schools have been visited (9 in all). In addition, immunisation has been carried out at special sessions at the Child Welfare Clinics and by the Doctors at their own surgeries.

During the year, 671 children were immunised. It is estim-

ated that 53% of children under 5, and 66% of children between 5 and 15 are now immunised in this district (at 31st December 1942). This is still unsatisfactory.

CAUSES AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1942

CAUSES	All Ages	Under 1yr	1-2 yrs	2-5 yrs	5-15 yrs	15-25 yrs	25-45 yrs	45-60 yrs	Ov'r 60 yrs
Typhoid ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough ...	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria ...	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	6	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	1
Tuberculosis (Other Forms)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Syphilis ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Influenza ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Measles ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cancer of—									
Mouth, Gullet & Uterus	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Stomach & Duodenum	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
Breast ...	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
All Others ...	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Diabetes ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Apoplexy (Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions) ...	15	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	13
Heart Diseases ...	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28
Other Circulatory Diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bronchitis ...	9	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	8
Pneumonia ...	4	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-
Other Resp. Diseases ...	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Ulcer of Stomach ...	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 yrs) ...	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Appendicitis ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Other Digestive Diseases ...	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
Nephritis ...	6	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	3
Puerperal Sepsis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Maternal Causes ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Premature Births ...	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Congen. Malformality, Birth Injuries etc. ...	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Suicide ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Road Accidents ...	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Other Violence ...	7	1	-	-	1	-	5	-	-
All Other Causes ...	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	8
Totals	123	8	3	3	5	4	10	12	78

STATEMENT OF NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES RECEIVED DURING 1942

Cases notified or otherwise ascertained	
-	Smallpox
23	Scarlet Fever
23	Diphtheria (incl. Membraneous Croup)
-	Typhoid (Enteric Fever)
18	Acute Pneumonia (primary or influenzal)
1	Puerperal Pyrexia
2	Cerebro-Spinal Fever
-	Acute Poliomyelitis
-	Acute Polio Encephalitis
-	Dysentery
1	Ophthalmia Neonatorum
7	Erysipelas
14	Respiratory Tuberculosis (new cases only)
7	Other Forms Tuberculosis(new cases only)
-	Malaria (contracted in this country)
-	Malaria (contracted abroad)
-	Chickenpox
116	Measles (excluding German Measles)
19	Whooping Cough

Cases removed to Hospital	
-	Smallpox
22	Scarlet Fever
23	Diphtheria
-	Enteric Fever
2	Cerebro-Spinal Fever
7	Other Diseases (including Tuberculosis)

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality during 1942

Age Periods	New Cases Pulm. M	New Cases Pulm. F	New Cases Non.Pul. M	New Cases Non.Pul. F	Deaths Pul. M	Deaths Pul. F	Deaths Non-Pul. M	Deaths Non-Pul. F
Under 1 year ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 and under 5 ...	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
5 and under 10 ...	-	1	1	3	-	-	-	-
10 and under 15 ...	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 and under 20 ...	2	3	-	1	-	-	-	-
20 and under 35 ...	2	3	-	-	-	2	1	-
35 and under 45 ...	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
45 and under 55 ...	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
55 and under 65 ...	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-
65 and over ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	5	9	2	5	2	3	1	-

Number of Cases on Tuberculosis Register

	Pulmonary M	Pulmonary F	Non-Pulm. M	Non-Pulm. F	Total M	Total F
On Register 1 Jan. 1942 ...	43	31	28	31	71	62
Added during year ...	5	9	2	5	7	14
Totals	48	40	30	36	78	76
Removed from Register during 1942 ...	5	5	1	0	6	5
On Register 31 Dec. 1942...	43	35	29	36	72	71

Reasons for Removal of Cases from Tuberculosis Register

	Pulmonary M	Pulmonary F	Non-Pulmonary M	Non-Pulmonary F
Died ...	2	3	1	-
Revised Diagnosis ...	-	2	-	-
Recovered ...	2	-	-	-
Left District ...	1	-	-	-
Totals	5	5	1	0

TUBERCULOSIS. There has been an increased incidence of Tuberculosis, 21 new cases were notified during 1942 as opposed to 12 in 1941. There were 6 deaths from Tuberculosis during the year.

The Death Rate for Tuberculosis was 0.49.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES CASES treated in Isolation Hospital. Costs : 22 Scarlet Fever, 23 Diphtheria and 2 Cerebro Spinal Fever cases were sent to Isolation Hospital. There were no deaths from Scarlet Fever, 2 from Diphtheria and 2 from Cerebro Spinal Fever.

The cost to the ratepayers for Hospital Maintenance of Scarlet Fever (1006 days) was £183/8/4 ; Diphtheria (1044 days) was £215/16/0 ; and Cerebro Spinal Fever (31 days) was £7/17/7 ; a total of £407/1/11.

MEASLES. 116 cases were all treated at home without assistance, and there were no deaths.

CANCER . 15 deaths occurred during the year, 8 being males and 7 females, showing that 12% of the total deaths were due to this disease.

VACCINATION. 61 Primary Vaccinations were performed during 1942, showing that only 23% of the children born alive were protected.

VENEREAL DISEASE. 24 new cases attended at the V.D. Clinic, Wakefield, for treatment, and 14 of these cases proved to be V.D. I am indebted to the Surgeon for this information.

SCABIES. 66 cases of Scabies were treated at the First Aid Post between 30th September and 31st December 1942. The institution of this service has been of much value to the community, and we are greatly indebted to the good work of the First Aid Post staff for their willing and efficient help in this matter.

AMBULANCE SERVICES. 867 journeys were made by the two Ambulances during 1942. The total mileage covered was 8622. These figures show the extreme value to the community of these services, and the work of drivers and attendants is worthy of high commendation.

HOUSING AND PRIVATE STREETS. Both are in abeyance until the war is over.

SANITARY WORK. Our water supply is good and ample. All the houses in the district, with the exception of one, are connected with the Public Water supply. The cost per 1000 gallons was 16.90 pence plus 5%.

DRAINAGE. With the exception of Ackton Wood Pastures, the drainage and two Sewage Farms are satisfactory.

SCAVENGING. The collection and disposal of House Refuse is done entirely by the Council workmen, and efficiently.

During the year, 2125 loads were removed to the Destructor, 3142 loads to the Tips, and 2320 loads of liquid were removed from Cesspools to farm land. The cost of collection and disposal for the year amounts to £4076/4/4.

We still have 51 cesspools in this area, mostly associated with detached houses and Ackton Pastures. The cost in wages alone in giving attention to these cesspools was £297/17/10.

We still have at present—

3019	water and waste-water closets
30	pail closets
350	privies
203	wet ashpits
305	dry ashpits
2187	dust bins

1 waste-water closet was converted to 1 water closet during the year. We have 88.25% of the houses in this area on the water-carriage system.

Mr. Hilsley's Report is incorporated. The efficiency of his department is of extreme value to the community and remains at a very high level.

The West Riding County Council are the supervising authority for Child Welfare and Maternity Work for this area.

There are 3 centres for Child Welfare, 1 centre for Ante-Natal work (which is well attended) and 1 centre for Toddlers.

We had 2 Health Visitors engaged in the district up to 30th June 1942, since when we have had only 1, and 3 Certified Midwives engaged throughout the whole year.

In conclusion, I earnestly thank all the members of my Council for their kindly support on all occasions.

I am

Yours faithfully

WM. STEVEN, M.B.

July 1943 M.O.H.

URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT OF FEATHERSTONE

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1942

To the Chairman and Members of the Council :

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Sixteenth Annual Report on the work of the Sanitary and Cleansing Departments for the year ended 31st December 1942. The report is curtailed in accordance with instructions.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION. The conversion of closets has been held up by the shortage of labour and materials, and during the year under review only 1 waste-water closet has been converted to a water closet.

There are still 350 privy closets in the area, and as soon as circumstances permit, these should receive attention.

SCAVENGING is done by direct labour, and despite difficulties in keeping transport on the road, has been satisfactorily carried out.

The estimated weight of refuse collected was 8300 tons. Of this quantity, 4270 tons were incinerated at the destructor works, and of the remainder, 130 tons were recovered as salvage, and 4000 tons disposed of by tipping. In addition, 2320 loads of liquid from cesspools were disposed of on farm land.

SALVAGE of materials useful to the war effort has been carried out during the year, and the following materials were salvaged and sold—

		tons	cwts	qrs	lbs
Waste Paper	...	56	8	1	0
Bones	...	1	11	1	2
Bottles	...	1	12	3	10
Jars	...	6	13	0	14
Ferrous Metals	...	43	12	1	0
Non-Ferrous Metals	...	0	7	2	13
Textiles	...	3	11	3	8
Broken Glass	...	8	13	0	0
Kitchen Waste	...	7	3	0	0
Rubber	...	1	3	0	0
	Totals	130	16	0	9

The cash receipts for these articles were £537/15/6.

FOOD SUPPLY—

MILK. Routine visits were paid to the farms and on the whole the premises were kept in a reasonable condition.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS. Slaughtering of animals for food is centralised and with the exception of pigs slaughtered for private pigkeepers, is not now carried on in your district.

Food inspection is however necessary, and during the year the following articles of food have been condemned as unfit for human consumption by the shopkeepers—

Eggs	...	551
Bacon	...	52 lb
Ham	...	23 lb
Frozen Beef	...	283½ lb
Tinned Milk	...	122 tins

Tinned Meats	...	69 tins
Tinned Vegetables	...	38 tins
Tinned Fish	...	5 tins
Tinned Soups	...	2 tins
Tinned Fruits	...	32 tins
Cake	...	$7\frac{1}{4}$ lb
Australian Lamb	...	13 lb
Sausages	...	$13\frac{1}{2}$ lb
Margarine	...	9 lb
Jam	...	32 lb
Onions	...	18 lb

SANITARY INSPECTION AND NUISANCES DISCOVERED. Essential inspections for Nuisances and Housing were made during the year. Great difficulty has been experienced in securing the prompt execution of work owing to both the labour and materials.

580 nuisances were discovered of which the greater proportion were abated after service of Informal Notice. 14 Statutory Notices were served, but legal proceedings were not necessary.

HOUSING. No new houses were erected during the year. 42 houses were dealt with under Section 9 of the Housing Act 1936, and of these, 32 were rendered fit after Informal Notice. 10 Statutory Notices were served, 5 of which had been complied with at the end of the year, together with 8 outstanding from the previous year, leaving 5 still outstanding.

CONCLUSION. I beg to tender my best thanks to the Medical Officer of Health, to my Staff, and to my brother officials for their help, and to you, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, for your support during a year rendered difficult by the circumstances prevailing.

I am, Gentlemen

Your obedient servant

JOHN HILSLEY

Chief Sanitary Inspector